

Please amend Claims 39-41 as follows:

1 39. (Once Amended) A grid for a battery comprising:
2 a network bordered by at least one frame element, one of the frame
3 elements having a current collector lug;
4 the network comprising a plurality of spaced apart wire elements, each wire
5 element having opposed ends, each opposed end being joined to one of a plurality of
6 nodes to define a plurality of open spaces;
7 a lead alloy coated on substantially all surfaces of the network;
8 at least a portion of the wire elements having a first transverse cross-section
9 taken at a position intermediate the opposed ends of the wire element and a second
10 transverse cross-section taken at one of the opposed ends of the wire element.

1 40. (Once Amended) The grid of Claim 39 wherein the second transverse cross-
2 section is substantially rectangular.

1 41. (Once Amended) The grid of Claim 39 wherein the first transverse cross-
2 section has a shape selected from group consisting of diamond, oval, rhomboid, hexagon,
3 and octagon.

Please add the following new Claims 42-45.

42. (New) The grid of Claim 39 wherein the lead alloy comprises a lead-tin alloy.

43. (New) The grid of Claim 42 wherein the lead-tin alloy comprises about 90
weight percent to about 99 weight percent lead and about 1 weight percent to about 10
weight percent tin.

44. (New) The grid of Claim 43 wherein the lead-tin alloy further includes
antimony.

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~~45.~~ (New) The grid of Claim 42 wherein the lead-tin alloy comprises about 80
2 weight percent to about 98 weight percent lead, about 1 weight percent to about 10
3 weight percent tin, and about 1 weight percent to about 10 weight percent antimony.

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~~46.~~ (New) The grid of Claim 45 wherein the coating has a melting point less
2 than about 620 degrees Fahrenheit.

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~~47.~~ (New) The grid of Claim 43 wherein the network comprises a lead-calcium
2 alloy.

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~~48.~~ (New) The grid of Claim 47 wherein the lead-calcium alloy comprises about
2 0.06 weight percent to about 0.07 weight percent calcium.

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~~49.~~ (New) The grid of Claim 48 wherein the lead-calcium alloy comprises at
2 least about 0.8 weight percent tin.

1 ⁵¹
~~50.~~ (New) The grid of Claim 49 wherein the lead-calcium alloy comprises about
2 1.2 weight percent to about 1.5 weight percent tin.

1 ⁵²
~~51.~~ (New) The grid of Claim 50 wherein the lead-calcium alloy comprises tin in a
2 ratio to calcium of greater than about 12:1.

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~~52.~~ (New) The grid of Claim 51 wherein the lead-calcium alloy comprises at
2 least about 0 to about 0.02 weight percent silver.

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53.

1 (New) A grid for a battery comprising:
2 a network bordered by at least one frame element comprising:
3 a plurality of spaced apart wires having a plurality of surfaces;
4 a plurality of apertures stamped between the plurality of spaced apart
5 wires;
6 a coating comprising a lead alloy on the plurality of surfaces of the plurality
7 of spaced apart wires;
8 wherein the coating is configured to couple an active material to the
9 network.

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1 (New) The grid of Claim 53 wherein the plurality of spaced apart wires
2 include a plurality of planar surfaces.

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1 (New) The grid of Claim 54 wherein the plurality of apertures are defined by
2 surfaces that are transverse to the plurality of planar surfaces.

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1 (New) The grid of Claim 55 wherein the coating is disposed on the surfaces
2 that are transverse to the plurality of planar surfaces.

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1 (New) The grid of Claim 53 wherein the lead alloy comprises a lead-tin alloy
2 comprising about 90 weight percent to about 99 weight percent lead and about 1 weight
3 percent to about 10 weight percent tin.

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1 (New) The grid of Claim 57 wherein the lead-tin alloy further includes
2 antimony.

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59.

1 (New) The grid of Claim 53 wherein the lead alloy comprises a lead-tin alloy
2 comprising about 80 weight percent to about 98 weight percent lead, about 1 weight
3 percent to about 10 weight percent tin, and about 1 weight percent to about 10 weight
4 percent antimony.

1 ~~60~~. (New) The grid of Claim 59 wherein the coating has a melting point less
2 than about 620 degrees Fahrenheit.

1 ~~61~~. (New) The grid of Claim 59 wherein the at least one frame element includes
2 a current collector lug.

1 ~~62~~. (New) The grid of Claim 59 wherein the active material comprises a paste.

1 ~~63~~. (New) The grid of Claim 59 wherein the wire includes a first transverse
2 cross-section taken at a position intermediate an end of the wire and a second transverse
3 cross-section taken at the end of the wire.

1 ~~64~~. (New) A grid for a battery comprising:
2 means for supporting an active material and having a plurality of exposed
3 surfaces;
4 means for coating the means for supporting the active material;
5 wherein the means for coating substantially covers the plurality of exposed
6 surfaces.

1 ~~65~~. (New) The grid of Claim 64 wherein the means for supporting the active
2 material comprises a network bordered by at least one frame element.

1 ~~66~~. (New) The grid of Claim 65 wherein the means for supporting the active
2 material comprises a plurality of spaced apart wires having a plurality of surfaces.

1 ~~67~~. (New) The grid of Claim 66 wherein the means for supporting the active
2 material comprises a plurality of apertures stamped between the plurality of spaced apart
3 wires.

1 ~~68~~. (New) The grid of Claim 67 wherein the means for coating comprises a
2 coating comprising a lead alloy on the plurality of surfaces of the a plurality of spaced
3 apart wires.

1 ~~69~~. (New) The grid of Claim 68 wherein the plurality of spaced apart wires
2 include a plurality of planar surfaces.

1 ~~70~~. (New) The grid of Claim 69 wherein the plurality of apertures are defined by
2 surfaces that are transverse to the plurality of planar surfaces.

1 ~~71~~. (New) The grid of Claim 70 wherein the coating is disposed on the surfaces
2 that are transverse to the plurality of planar surfaces.

1 ~~72~~. (New) The grid of Claim 64 wherein means for coating comprises a lead-tin
2 alloy comprising about 90 weight percent to about 99 weight percent lead and about 1
3 weight percent to about 10 weight percent tin.

1 ~~73~~. (New) The grid of Claim 72 wherein the lead-tin alloy further includes
2 antimony.

1 ~~74~~. (New) The grid of Claim 68 wherein the coating comprises about 80 weight
2 percent to about 98 weight percent lead, about 1 weight percent to about 10 weight
3 percent tin, and about 1 weight percent to about 10 weight percent antimony.

1 ~~75~~. (New) The grid of Claim 74 wherein the coating has a melting point less
2 than about 620 degrees Fahrenheit.